

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 AID-07 NSC-04 SS-20 EB-05 COME-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 FEA-01 AGR-03 CIEP-01 DOTE-00 SP-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 SAM-01

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R 100939Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1755

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USG PEKING 210

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 2980

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PFOR TW JO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE

REF: TAIPEI 2128 NOTAL

1. SUMMARY. JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE HASSAN VISITED ROC MAY 4-7. VISIT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL, WITH EMPHASIS ON DISCUSSION OF PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATIVE VENTURES TO BE UNDERTAKEN IN JORDAN. PREMIER CHIANG ACCEPTED INVITATION TO VISIT JORDAN, AND WE UNDERSTAND HE INTENDS TO DO SO. END SUMMARY.

2. CROWN PRINCE HASSAN OF JORDAN VISITED ROC MAY 4-7, ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER, GOVERNOR OF CENTRAL BANK AND NUMBER OF OTHER JORDANIAN OFFICIALS. HASSAN AND HIS PARTY WERE RECEIVED BY MME. CHIANG KAI-SHEK AND HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR ROC OFFICIALS INCLUDING PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO, FOREIGN MINISTER SHEN, ECONOMICS MINISTER SUN AND CETRAL BANK GOVERNOR YU.

3. PARTY SPENT TWO DAYS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN TAIWAN,
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VISITING MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS AND VARIOUS PROJECTS

OF THE VOCATIONAL ASSISTANCE COMMISSION FOR RETIRED SERVICEMEN (VACRS) AND THE RETIRED SERVICEMEN'S ENGINEERING AGENCY (RSEA) (REFTEL), INCLUDING NORTH/SOUTH FREEWAY UNDER CONSTRUCTION, EAST-WEST HIGHWAY, AND CEMENT, GLASS AND FERTILIZER INDUSTRIES.

4. WE UNDERSTAND TWO SIDES DISCUSSED JOINT PROJECTS IN FIELDS OF PHOSPHOROUS, COPPER AND PETROLEUM EXTRACTION, GLASS, CEMENT, AND FERTILIZER MANUFACTURE, HIGHWAY AND RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION, AGRICULTURE, AND PROJECTS INVOLVING RETIRED SERVICEMEN. ECONOMICS MINISTER HAS TOLD US THAT, WHILE SUBJECTS WERE NOT NEW, MOST RECENT CONVERSATIONS MOVED THEM ALONG:

A. ROC OFFERED TO ASSIST IN ESTABLISHING A MORE MODERN PHOSPHATE EXTRACTION/PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN JORDAN (ROC ALREADY BUYS SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF PHOSPHATE FROM JORDAN), AND TWO SIDES AGREED THAT THEY WOULD LOOK INTO POSSIBILITY OF BUILDING A FERTILIZER PLANT.

B. ROC OFFERED TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPING A RETIRED SERVICEMEN'S OPERATION IN JORDAN WHICH COULD UNDERTAKE PROJECTS SIMILAR TO THOSE PERFORMED BY SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS IN TAIWAN.

C. IN FIELD OF PETROLEUM, ROC OFFERED TO UNDERTAKE A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN NORTHERN JORDAN AREA. POSSIBILITY OF US PARTICIPATION ALSO DISCUSSED.

D. ROC IS CONSIDERING HIGHWAY PROJECT FROM AMMAN TO AQABA. VICE ECON MIN CHANG TOLD US THAT PROPOSAL WOULD HAVE TO BE REFINED AND DEVELOPED, BUT IMPLIED THAT IT WAS A SERIOUS PROPOSAL. HE INTENDS TO GO TO JORDAN SOON TO FOLLOW UP ON SOME OF THE PROJECTS WHICH HAD BEEN DISCUSSED DURING CROWN PRINCE'S VISIT.

5. JOINT COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THAT PREMIER CHIANG HAD ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT JORDAN. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THIS IS NOT MERE COURTESY; PREMIER DOES INTEND TO VISIT JORDAN AT SOME STILL UNSPECIFIED DATE.
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6. COMMENT: GROC APPEARS VERY PLEASED WITH VISIT. RELATIONSHIP WITH JORDAN IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO ROC, AND THEY PULLED OUT ALL STOPS IN TRYING TO MAKE VISIT A SUCCESS. PREMIER MET CROWN PRINCE AT AIRPORT, REMAINED WITH HIM DURING MOST OF ITINERARY, DOWN ISLAND AS WELL AS IN TAIPEI. ALTHOUGH TALK ABOUT SOME OF COOPERATIVE PROJECTS MAY PROVE RATHER ENDLESS, ROC IS WELL EQUIPPED

AND WELL DISPOSED TO HELP IN MOST OF FIELDS MENTIONED.

7. JORDANIANS INSISTED ON KEEPING HASSAN'S VISIT COMPLETELY SECRET UNTIL HE ARRIVED. MORE UNUSUAL, JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR ANWAR NASHASHIBI WAS RECALLED TO AMMAN BEFORE VISIT TOOK PLACE, AND HAS NOT YET RETURNED. VICE FOREIGN MINISTER YANG VOLUNTEERED GUESS THAT NASHASHIBI'S ABSENCE MIGHT BE RELATED TO HIS BEING A PALESTINIAN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, PETROLEUM, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), HIGHWAYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TAIPEI02980
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740114-0588
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740555/aaaabxka.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: TAIPEI 2128 NOTAL
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF JORDANIAN CROWN PRINCE
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, TW, JO, (HASSAN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005